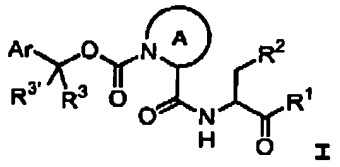
Listing of Claims

Please replace all prior versions and listings of claims with the amended the claims as follows.

1. (Previously Presented) A compound of formula I:



I

wherein:

Ring A is an optionally substituted tetrahydroquinoline or tetrahydroisoquinoline ring;

R^1 is -H, $-CHN_2$, -R, or $-CH_2Y$;

R is an optionally substituted group selected from an aliphatic group, an aryl group, an aralkyl group, a heterocyclic group, or an heterocyclylalkyl group;

Y is an electronegative leaving group;

R^2 is CO_2H, CH_2CO_2H, or esters, amides or isosteres thereof;

Ar is an optionally substituted aryl group; and

$R^{3'}$ is -H, and R^3 is -H, an optionally substituted C_{1-6} alkyl, CN, or aryl;

or R^3 is attached to Ar to form an unsaturated or partially saturated five or six membered fused ring having 0-2 heteroatoms; or

$R^{3'}$ and R^3 are each -F.

2. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 1, wherein R^1 is CH_2F.

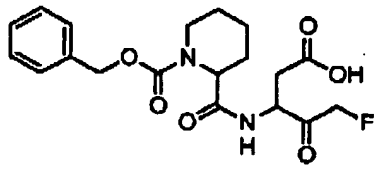
3. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 2 having the following features: (a) R^1 is CH_2F; (b) R^2 is CO_2H or esters, amides or isosteres thereof; and (c) R^3 is hydrogen or an optionally substituted C_{1-6} alkyl.

4. (Cancelled)

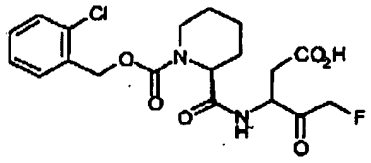
5. (Original) The compound of claim 3 where Ring A is a tetrahydroquinoline ring.

6. (Original) The compound of claim 3 where Ring A is a tetrahydroisoquinoline ring.

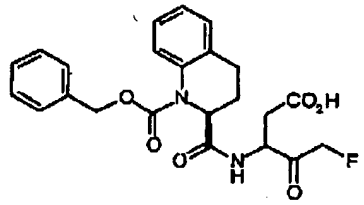
7. (Previously Presented) A compound, wherein the compound is



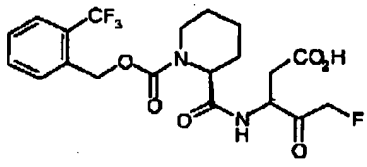
1



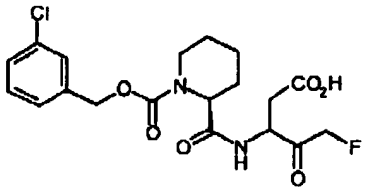
2



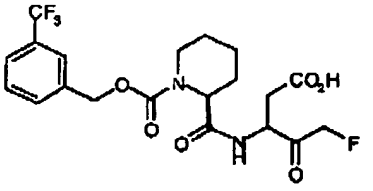
3



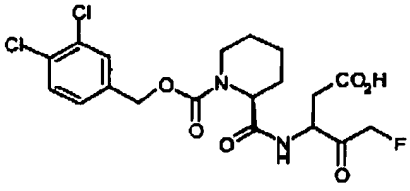
4



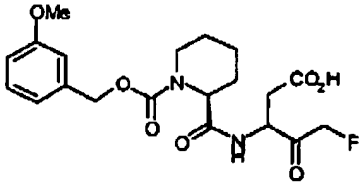
5



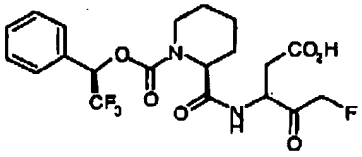
6



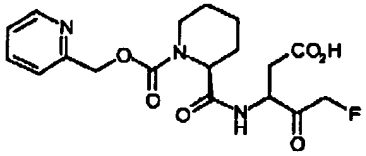
7



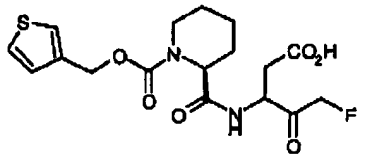
8



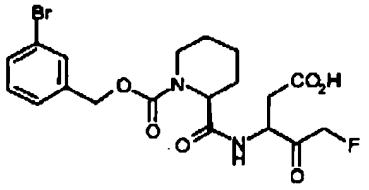
9



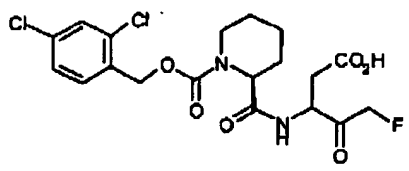
10



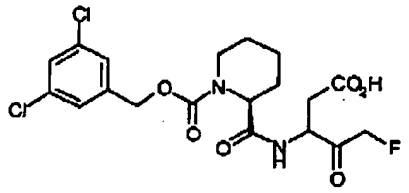
11



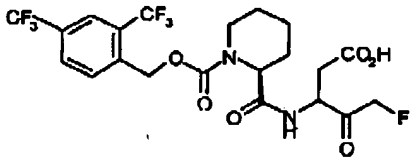
12



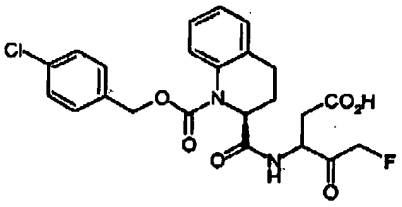
13



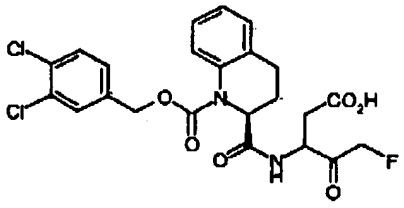
14



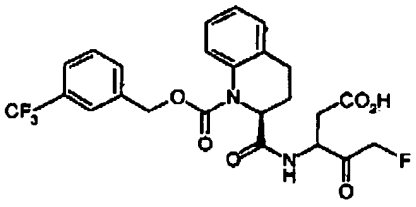
15



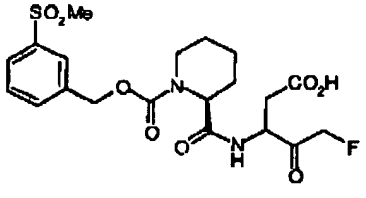
16



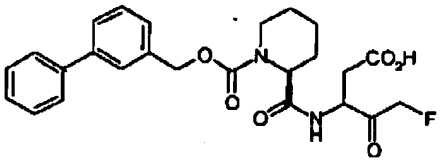
17



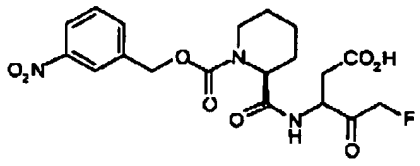
18



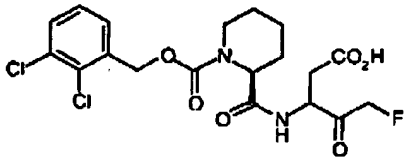
19



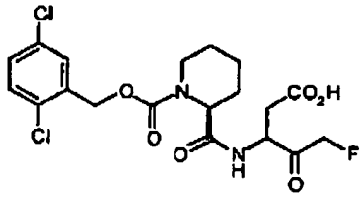
20



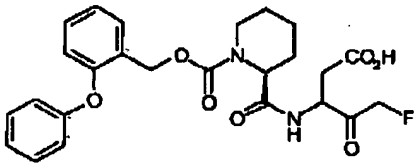
21



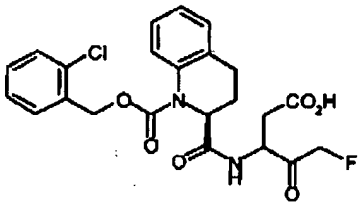
22



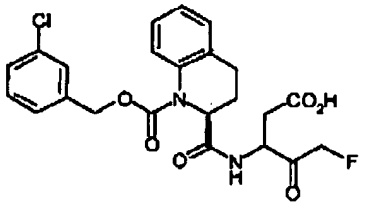
23



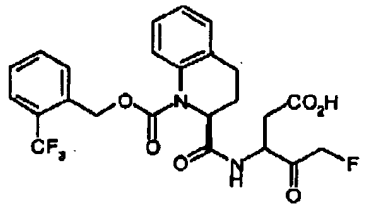
24

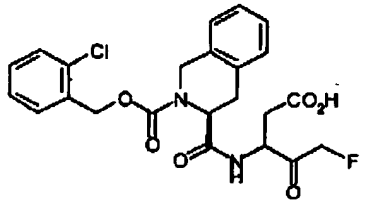


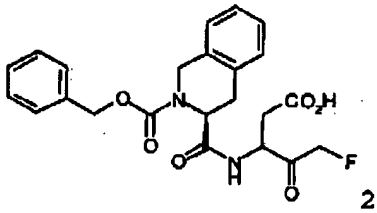
25

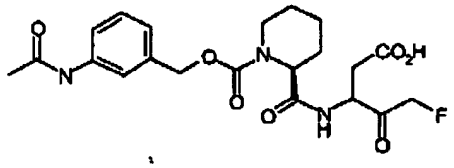


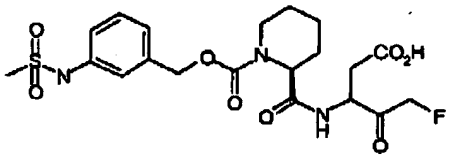
26

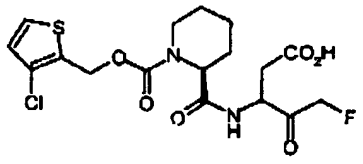

27

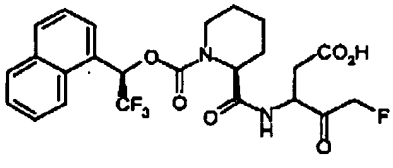

28

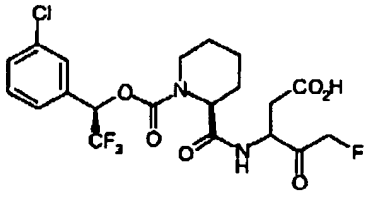

29

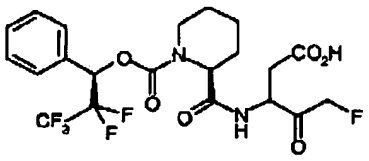

30

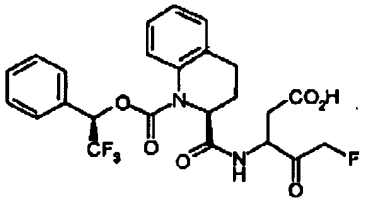

31

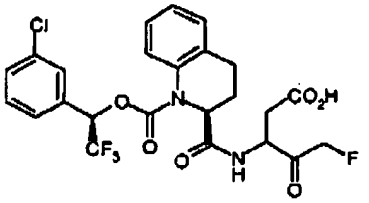

32

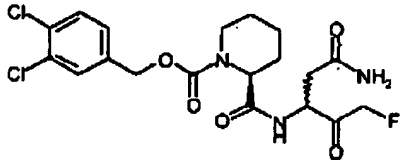

33

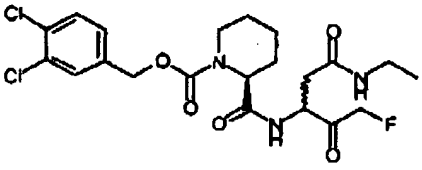

34

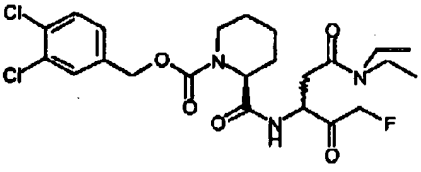

35

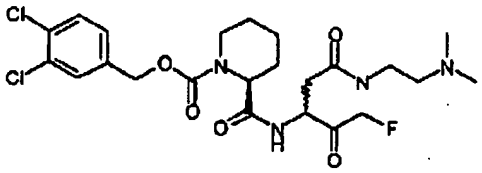

36


37

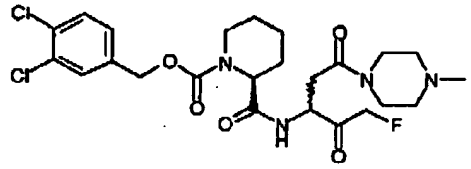

38


39

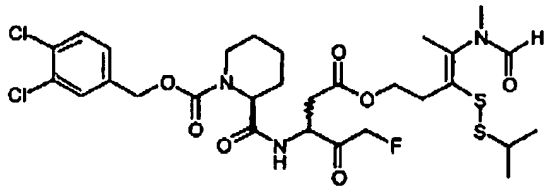

40



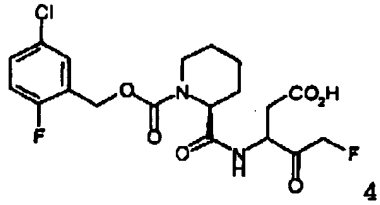
41



42



43 or



44.

8. (Previously Presented) A method for treating a condition or disease state in mammals that is alleviated by treatment with a caspase inhibitor, comprising administering to a mammal in need of such a treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to any one of claims 1-3, 5-7 or 18-42.

9-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8 wherein the disease is selected from an IL-1 mediated disease, an apoptosis mediated disease, an inflammatory disease, an autoimmune disease, a destructive bone disorder, a proliferative disorder, an infectious disease, a degenerative disease, a disease associated with cell death, an excess

dietary alcohol intake disease, a viral mediated disease, uveitis, inflammatory peritonitis, osteoarthritis, pancreatitis, asthma, adult respiratory distress syndrome, glomerulonephritis, rheumatoid arthritis, systemic lupus erythematosus, scleroderma, chronic thyroiditis, Grave's disease, autoimmune gastritis, diabetes, autoimmune hemolytic anemia, autoimmune neutropenia, thrombocytopenia, chronic active hepatitis, myasthenia gravis, inflammatory bowel disease, Crohn's disease, psoriasis, atopic dermatitis, scarring, graft vs host disease, organ transplant rejection, osteoporosis, leukemias and related disorders, myelodysplastic syndrome, multiple myeloma-related bone disorder, acute myelogenous leukemia, chronic myelogenous leukemia, metastatic melanoma, Kaposi's sarcoma, multiple myeloma, haemorrhagic shock, sepsis, septic shock, burns, Shigellosis, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, Huntington's disease, Kennedy's disease, prion disease, cerebral ischemia, epilepsy, myocardial ischemia, acute and chronic heart disease, myocardial infarction, congestive heart failure, atherosclerosis, coronary artery bypass graft, spinal muscular atrophy, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, multiple sclerosis, HIV-related encephalitis, aging, alopecia, neurological damage due to stroke, ulcerative colitis, traumatic brain injury, spinal cord injury, hepatitis-B, hepatitis-C, hepatitis-G, yellow fever, dengue fever, Japanese encephalitis, liver disease, alcoholic hepatitis, renal disease, polyaptic kidney disease, H. pylori-associated gastric and duodenal ulcer disease, HIV infection, tuberculosis, and meningitis.

13. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein the compound is used to treat complications associated with coronary artery bypass grafts.

14. (Previously Presented) A method for the preservation of cells, said method comprising the step of bathing the cells in a solution of a compound according to any one of claims 1-3, 5-7, or 18-42.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the cells are in an organ for use in an organ transplant or in a blood products.

16. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein the compound is used as a component of immunotherapy for the treatment of cancer.

17. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any of claims 1-3, 5-7, or 18-42 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

18. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 1 where Ring A is a tetrahydroquinoline ring.

19. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 1 where Ring A is a tetrahydroisoquinoline ring.

20. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 1, wherein R^2 is CO_2H or esters, amides or isosteres thereof.

21. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 20, wherein R^1 is CH_2F.

22. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 1, wherein R^3 is hydrogen or an optionally substituted C_{1-6} alkyl.

23. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 1, wherein R^3 is C_{1-6} haloalkyl.

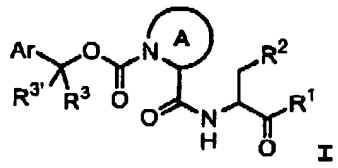
24. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 23, wherein R^3 is CF_3.

25. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 23, wherein R^3 is C_2F_5.

26. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 22, wherein R^1 is CH_2F.

27. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 22, wherein R^2 is CO_2H or esters, amides or isosteres thereof.

28. (Previously Presented) A compound of formula I:



I

wherein:

Ring A is an optionally substituted piperidine ring;

R^1 is -H, $-CHN_2$, -R, or $-CH_2Y$;

R is an optionally substituted group selected from an aliphatic group, an aryl group, an aralkyl group, a heterocyclic group, or an heterocyclylalkyl group;

Y is an electronegative leaving group;

R^2 is CO_2H, CH_2CO_2H, or esters, amides or isosteres thereof;

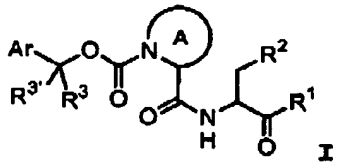
Ar is an optionally substituted aryl group; and

$R^{3'}$ is -H, and R^3 is -H, an optionally substituted C_{1-6} alkyl, CN, or aryl;

or R^3 is attached to Ar to form an unsaturated or partially saturated five or six membered fused ring having 0-2 heteroatoms;

or R^3 and $R^{3'}$ are each -F; provided that R^1 is not $-CH_2-$tetrazolyl, wherein the tetrazole ring is optionally substituted.

29. (Previously Presented) A compound of formula I:



I

wherein:

Ring A is an optionally substituted piperidine ring;

R^1 is hydrogen, CHN_2, or $-CH_2Y$;

Y is F, Cl, Br, I, $-OSO_2$aryl, $-OSO_2C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $-OSO_2CF_3$, -OR', -SR', -OC=O(R'), or $-OPO(R^4)$ (R^5);

R^2 is CO_2H, CH_2CO_2H, or esters, amides or isosteres thereof;

Ar is an optionally substituted aryl group;

$R^{3'}$ is -H, and R^3 is -H, an optionally substituted C_{1-6} alkyl, CN, or aryl;

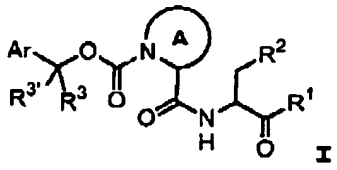
or R^3 is attached to Ar to form an unsaturated or partially saturated five or six membered fused ring having 0-2 heteroatoms;

or R^3 and $R^{3'}$ are each -F;

R^4 and R^5 are independently -R' or -OR'; and

R' is an aliphatic group, an aryl group, an aralkyl group, a carbocyclic group, an alkyl carbocyclic group, a heterocyclic group, or an alkyl heterocyclic group, wherein each group is optionally substituted.

30. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula I:



I

wherein:

Ring A is an optionally substituted piperidine ring;

R^1 is hydrogen, CHN_2, R, or $-CH_2Y$;

R is an unsubstituted aliphatic group, an optionally substituted aryl group, an optionally substituted heterocyclic group, or an optionally substituted heterocyclylalkyl group, provided that the heterocyclic group and the heterocyclylalkyl group is not aromatic;

Y is F, Cl, Br, I, $-OSO_2$aryl, $-OSO_2C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $-OSO_2CF_3$, -OR', -SR', -OC=O(R'), or $-OPO(R^4)(R^5)$;

R^2 is CO_2H, CH_2CO_2H, or esters, amides or isosteres thereof;

Ar is an optionally substituted aryl group;

$R^{3'}$ is -H, and R^3 is -H, an optionally substituted C_{1-6} alkyl, CN, or aryl;

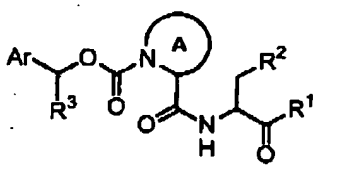
or R^3 is attached to Ar to form an unsaturated or partially saturated five or six membered fused ring having 0-2 heteroatoms;

or R^3 and $R^{3'}$ are each -F;

R' is an aliphatic group, an aryl group, an aralkyl group, a carbocyclic group, a carbocyclylalkyl group, a heterocyclic group, or an heterocyclylalkyl, wherein each group is optionally substituted; and

R^4 and R^5 are independently -R' or -OR'.

31. (Previously Presented) A compound of formula I:



I

wherein:

Ring A is an optionally substituted piperidine ring;

R^1 is -H, $-CHN_2$, -R, or $-CH_2Y$;

R is an optionally substituted group selected from an aliphatic group, an aryl group, an aralkyl group, a heterocyclic group, or an heterocyclylalkyl group;

Y is an electronegative leaving group;

R^2 is CO_2H, CH_2CO_2H, or esters, amides or isosteres thereof;

Ar is an optionally substituted aryl group; and

R^3 is a C_{1-6} haloalkyl.

32. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 31, wherein R^3 is CF_3.

33. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 31, wherein R^3 is C_2F_5.

34. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 29, wherein R^1 is -H.

35. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 29, wherein R^1 is $-CH_2F$.

36. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 29, wherein R^1 is $-CH_2OR'$.

37. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 29, wherein R^2 is CO_2H or esters, amides or isosteres thereof.

38. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 37, wherein R^1 is CH_2F.

39. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 29, wherein R^3 is hydrogen or an optionally substituted C_{1-6} alkyl.

40. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 39, wherein R^1 is CH_2F.

41. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 39, wherein R^2 is CO_2H or esters, amides or isosteres thereof.

42. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 41, wherein R^1 is CH_2F.

43. (Cancelled)